Appl. No. (not yet known)
Preliminary Amendment filed July 21, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): Method for receiving a purchase order by a remote location—(10) from a customer location-(9) via a first connection-(1) over a network, to enable a purchase relating to a reference number, comprising the steps of: □ completing a purchase order form that includes purchaser data-(2) and a predefined subset-(3) of the reference number; \exists receiving purchaser data—(2) and the predefined subset (3) of the reference number at the remote location-(10) from said customer location (9) via said first connection $(1)_{\tau}$; \Box storing the purchaser data-(2) and the subset-(3) of the reference number in a storage means—(5) of a computer system-(6) at the remote location-(10), said purchaser data being associated with the customer making the purchase 7: ☐ receiving reference number related data via a second connection-(13) over a network from the customer location (9) by an order-handling system, such as an IVR system-(7) at the remote location (10),; associating said second connection—(13) with the purchase order using the reference number related data, and the subset-(3) of the reference number transmitted via said first connection-(1), resulting in the complete reference number corresponding to the purchase order;

 \square __receiving an identification code—(8) from the customer location—(9) at the remote location—(10)- $\frac{1}{1}$

B___receiving at the remote location—(10) via said second connection—(13) reference number digits—(4) supplementary to the digits in the subset—(3) of the reference number.

Claim 2 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein said second connection—(13) is associated with the purchase order using said identification code—(8).

Claim 3 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein the complete reference number is determined by concatenating the digits in the subset—(3) of the reference number and the supplementary reference number digits—(4).

Claim 4 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein said first connection—(1) is a connection over a non-secure network.

Claim 5 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein said second connection—(13) is a connection over a public telephone system.

Claim 6 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein said first connection—(1) and said second connection (13) are connections over the same network.

Claim 7 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein the identification code—(8) is shown on-line to the customer after the customer has completed said purchase order form, and the identification code—(8) is received from the customer via said second connection—(13).

Claim 8 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein the identification code—(8) is provided by said computer system—(6) to the customer, and the identification code—(8) is received from the customer via said second connection—(13).

Claim 9 (currently amended): Method according to claim 1, wherein the identification code—(8) is received from a personal computer—(11) at the customer location—(9) by said computer system—(6) at the remote location—(10).

Claim 10 (currently amended): Method according to any of the preceding claimsclaim 1, wherein said reference number is a credit card number.

Claim 11 (currently amended): Method according to any of the preceding claimsclaim 1, wherein the identification code (8) is a unique code.